

# IOWAccess Project Concept One Stop Business Shop

Presentation to:

**IOWAccess Advisory Council**

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# **One Stop Business Shop – on-line business assistance**

**Requesting agency:**

**Iowa Dept. of Economic Development (IDED)**

**Contact:**

**Sherry Timmins, Regulatory Assistance  
Coordinator, IDED**

**Sponsor: Iowa Business and Regulatory Assistance  
Network**

# Goals

## One Stop Business Shop

**Electronic, Online Business Portal providing access that is:**

- **Accurate, timely and comprehensive**
- **Identifies expert resources, information and online applications**
- **Ensures licenses and permits necessary to conduct business in Iowa are identified**

# Purpose

## Plan and implement improvements to the Business License Information Center (BLIC)

2. **Enable business user and entrepreneur to accurately and quickly**
  - ◆ Search and identify compliance requirements and resources across enterprise
  - ◆ Successfully navigate and link to agency web sites
  - ◆ Complete and submit required business documents
  
3. **Ensure BLIC provides 24/7 access to information that is accurate, timely and complete**

# Background

## Business License Information Center (BLIC)

Iowa Code, 15E.17 requires:

- **IDED to provide resources that enables an individual or business interested in establishing a commercial facility or activity to obtain information about any registration, license or other approval required under state law.**
- **Regulatory agencies to keep IDEED informed of requirements and update information as needed.**

# Background

## Business License Information Center (BLIC)

Since 1997 (IOWAccess 13 Project) BLIC has served as the primary gateway to Iowa's licensing, certification and permitting requirements for business

- “then” - major innovation in using technology to ease access to information which is often elusive and confusing to persons doing business in Iowa
- “now” - BLIC interface is confusing and difficult to use
- NEED To – incorporate advancements in electronic, web-based technologies to leverage potential of BLIC to simplify and shorten task of locating and completing compliance business requirements!

## **Expected Results**

### **One Stop Business Shop**

- **Make Iowa more competitive**
- **Enhance service to existing and prospective business**
- **Reduce unnecessary regulatory delays**
- **Reduce costs of compliance**
- **Increase business focus on core activities rather than compliance**
- **Increase compliance rates**

## **Expected Results**

### **One Stop Business Shop**

- **Improving accessibility to regulatory information enhances the ability of business to operate efficiently in Iowa**
- **Especially important to small and medium sized businesses whose resources to independently develop information about the complexities of regulatory compliance are limited**
- **Enhances regulatory compliance as requirements and resources are identified early in the business and planning cycle**
  - ◆ **Avoids costly mistakes later down the road...**

## **Request**

### **One Stop Business Shop**

**\$20,000 to support Scope Analysis of requirements needed to improve services delivered through BLIC and to develop a sequential plan to modernize BLIC's operations through the application of available web enabled technologies**

➤ **Interest parties and recipients of service:**

- ◆ **Iowa business and entrepreneurs**
- ◆ **Prospective businesses seeking to locate in Iowa**
- ◆ **Iowa Regulatory and Business Assistance Network (representatives of major regulatory agencies in state government)**